

**Shell Rock River Watershed District  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
March 8, 2022**

Managers present: Mick Delger, Al Bakken, Joe Pacovsky, Mike Hanson, Gary Pestorious and Brad Kramer

Managers absent: Dan DeBoer

Chairman Pestorious called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. on March 8, 2022 at the Shell Rock River Watershed District, 214 W. Main St., Albert Lea, MN 56007.

Manager Hanson offered the following motion:

Move to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- a. Minutes of the February 8, 2022 SRRWD Monthly Board Meeting
- b. Minutes of the January 27, 2022 SRRWD Personnel Committee Meeting
- c. February 2022 Treasurer's Report Subject to Audit
- d. February 2022 Project Fund Treasurer's Report Subject to Audit
- e. Authorize Payment of Claims
- f. Authorize Payment of Project Fund Disbursements

Manager Kramer seconded the motion.

After discussion, a roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously approved.

Manager Delger offered the following motion:

Move to approve the agenda.

Manager Pacovsky seconded the motion.

After discussion, a roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously approved.

Administrator Henschel discussed the Country Club property. The real estate agreement has expired. The property was surveyed and inspected by Jones Haugh & Smith Inc. and the data was sent to the City Engineer. There was a brief discussion about the street dedication, platting lots, and how to split the property to make the development more marketable. Next steps include meeting with the City Engineer and re-listing the property.

Administrator Andy Henschel provided a legislative update. The bill for Phase 3 of the Fountain Lake Restoration Project was introduced last session but was not included in the Governor's bonding proposal. The 2022 legislative session has begun. The bill will be updated during

session to reflect inflation and increased project costs. The SRRWD is also watching the Lessard Sams Outdoor Heritage Council (LSOHC) bill for the District's ongoing Watershed Habitat Restoration Program and the Minnesota Association of Watershed District (MAWD) proposal to raise the general fund tax levy that watershed districts can receive. Administrator Henschel reminded the Board of Managers of the upcoming MAWD Legislative Event including breakfast at the Capitol with Legislators.

Administrator Henschel discussed the status of the fish barrier on Goose Lake. The barrier did not function correctly including low flow and fish kills. A new mechanical barrier and cat walk will be installed at the engineer and manufacturer's expense. The electrical equipment will be removed and ready for construction later this summer.

Administrator Henschel continued with a discussion about the Vandegrift Wetland Restoration Project. Six bids were received ranging from \$68,091.30 to \$166,507.00. The Engineer's Estimate was discussed and Freeborn Construction is awarded as the lowest qualified bidder.

Manager Hanson offered the following motion:

Move to introduce Resolution 2022-03 as follows:

**Resolution 2022-03**  
**Bid Award**  
**Project 2018-01**  
**Vandegrift Wetland Restoration**

WHEREAS, The Shell Rock River Watershed District Board of Managers ("Board of Managers") pursues the mission of implementing reasonable and necessary improvements to the water-related and other natural resources within its boundaries;

WHEREAS, The Shell Rock River Watershed District (the "District") is charged with implementing the Shell Rock River Watershed District Watershed Management Plan (the "Plan");

WHEREAS, on February 8, 2022, the District established the Vandegrift Wetland Restoration Project by Resolution 2022-02;

WHEREAS, a Request for Bids was sent February 10, 2022; and

WHEREAS, six bids were submitted to the District ranging from \$68,091.30 to \$166,507.00.

THEREFORE, the Board of Managers hereby finds that the proposed Project has the ability to promote the public interest and welfare in conformity with the Plan as set forth above.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Shell Rock River Watershed District hereby:

Sec. 1: Awards the Contract to Freeborn Construction as the lowest bidder and in the best interests of the District for the Vandegrift Wetland Restoration;

Sec. 3: Authorizes the District Administrator to sign all documents to proceed with the Project.

Manager Pacovsky seconded the motion.

After discussion, a roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously approved.

Chairman Pectorious declared the resolution passed.

Administrator Henschel reported that the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) approved the final report for the Targeted Watershed Grant that the District received. The District was awarded \$825,610 to implement projects in the Pickerel Lake Subwatershed to reduce nutrients and sedimentation from entering Pickerel Lake. The District completed six projects which included the Owens Wetland Restoration, Wasmoen Wetland Restoration, a 2 Stage Ditch Project, a Streambank Restoration, the J9 Outlet restoration and waterway installation. The District provided \$248,696.00 in match towards this grant and project partners included Pheasants Forever, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Freeborn County Drainage Authority.

Administrator Henschel discussed the upcoming meetings. The next board meeting has been scheduled for April 12, 2022 at 8:30AM at the SRRWD office.

Manager Kramer offered the following motion:

Move to adjourn the meeting.

Manager Hanson seconded the motion.

After discussion, a vote was taken and the motion was unanimously approved.